

# LaDOTD Acquirer



April/May 2001

"What acquiring minds want to know"

Volume 8, No. 2

## Reorganization and managing consultants are main spring focus

### Director's Report

By: Jim Dousay

**A**s we move into spring, the plate is pretty full in Real Estate. One of the things keeping me the busiest is the proposed reorganization of the section. On April 6<sup>th</sup>, I met with Bob Boagni and other Department officials to put the finishing touches on the proposal. When it is approved by the Chief Engineer, we then have to discuss it with the Human Resources Section who will advise us on presenting the proposal to the SECURE group. If they approve it, then it will go to Civil Service for their approval. The proposal we are making is to help us better manage the ever-increasing workload and will help balance the responsibilities of the Managers and the two Division Chiefs. For example, the Acquisition Division Chief now has twelve managers who report to her. We plan to create an Operational Manager who the nine District Managers would report to. Another important component of the proposed reorganization would be the creation of a Contracts unit which would focus on expediting consultant contracts, both Personal Services and Total Engineering. The Project Coordinator would still have the responsibility of making sure project are moving forward, but would play a greater role in the training of consultants and field agents. As you can see, there are some "hoops" left to hop through, but we hope we can get all the necessary approvals this year.



I must note, as training is mentioned, that this is another area where Louisiana is a leader. We have the most sophisticated training course for consultants in the nation. After viewing it on our web site, FHWA is scrambling to put together one of their own.

Along with Dr. Kam, Bob Boagni and others, I will be heading to South Carolina on April 18<sup>th</sup> to study how they manage their consultants on "design/build" projects. We will be looking at ways that their experience could benefit Louisiana as we will be using more and more consultants. DOTD is proposing to sell bonds to finance the TIME program which will lessen the time frame to get the projects finished. We will also study how what South Carolina does is affected by Louisiana law. Hopefully, this will lead to ways to manage consultants while having the least effect on the rest of our operations.

On May 6<sup>th</sup>, I am going to Portland, Oregon, for the AASHTO Right of Way Conference. Pam Leon will be going also and will make a presentation to the conference on electronic submission of appraisals. I will be moderating one of the utilities sessions.



Richard McElveen discusses relocation at a recent session of Real Estate's training session for consultants.

As I mentioned in the last issue of the *Acquirer*, we have been looking at the possibility of contracting with a firm to develop an internet connection with some of our systems so consultants could input data, etc., at their offices rather than going to a DOTD facility. Interestingly enough, another firm has contacted us about submitting a proposal for this. How did they learn about it? They read the *Acquirer* on the web site! One proposal is in and the other will be in soon, and I will meet with

DOTD officials to review the proposals and determine if we can secure funding for this. Once the consultant is selected, it should take about six months to do the work. ♦



**Carolyn Carraway**, on the birth of her first grandson, Grant Austin Jenny, born December 28, 2000, weighing in at 6 lbs 14 ozs. Proud parents are Jeff and Amanda Jenny.

**Donna Marcantel**, who was promoted to Administrative Secretary.

**Jerry Braswell**, who was named Real Estate Relocation Assistance Officer.

Happy Easter from the Acquirer



## In Observance of National Secretary's Day

What is the meaning of the observances of National Secretary's Day? Is it a conspiracy dreamt up by the real illuminate: the florist (FTD, to be precise), restaurant, candy, and the "surprise" (e.g., the singing moose, magical clown, etc.) service industries? Or is the ritual honestly meant to acknowledge the worthiness and appreciation of the person occupying the role, especially as it is often this person who really keeps the wheels of corporate America turning?



With the exception of National Temp Help Week, not many calendrical slots are dedicated to subordinates within the American hierarchies of work (unlike Burma, where there's even a Peasant's Day). There is a National Boss Day, which, contrary to popular belief, it is not every day but rather occurs on October 16 (as of yet, there is not yet an American CEO Day). However, a number of occupations do receive their temporal recognition. Some receive an entire month, like Be Kind to Editors and Writers Month. Others have a week, like the National Surveyors Week, National Municipal Clerk's Week, National Food Workers Week, National Bookkeepers Week, and, of course, the National

Professional Pet Sitters Week. And then there are those jobs with but a single day of acknowledgement, such as National Waitresses/Waiters Day, National Public Employees Appreciation Day (I wonder when that is), Inventors Day, Accountants Day, National Correction Officers Day, and National Third Shift Worker's Day. The centrality of the medical institution to our cultural value of health undoubtedly accounts for the disproportionate number of times its workers receive: National Nurses Week, Operation Room Nurse Week, National Physical Therapy Week, National Cardiovascular Technologists Recognition Day, International Nurses' Day, and National Pharmacist Day.

National Secretary's Day actually occurs during Professional Secretaries Week. Unlike the other occupation-based holidays, National Secretary's Day now comes with the expectation of some special gift. What precisely is to be given poses some interesting challenges. It cannot be too personal, nor too utilitarian, which would be like giving mom a vacuum cleaner on Mother's Day. It is supposed to represent a type of "corporate gift" as opposed to representing some private present from one's superior. And with male secretaries becoming the new corporate status symbol, are they too to be taken out by their male bosses? Is it the case that a female boss can get away giving flowers to her male secretary while a male boss cannot?

Perhaps the meaning of National Secretary's Day can be inferred from those other groups sharing its place on the calendar. The month of April is the Uh-huh Month, the National Occupational Therapy Month, Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Month, and Stress Awareness Month. National Secretaries Week shares its days with Big Brothers/Sisters Appreciation Week, Teacher Appreciation Week, and (thinking again about the gift business) National Lingerie Week. And what else is recognized on April 24 this year? Interestingly, Secretary's Day is also the National Remembrance of Man's Inhumanity To Man Day, Hostage Heroes Day, and (in Magnum, Oklahoma) Rattlesnake Day. What more needs to be said? - from [www.trinity.edu/~mkearl/secretary.html](http://www.trinity.edu/~mkearl/secretary.html) ♦

### More FHWA History

## Interstate highway system gets off to rocky start

Within the Eisenhower administration, the president placed primary responsibility for developing a financing mechanism for the grand plan on retired Gen. Lucius D. Clay, an engineer and a long-time associate and advisor to the president. At the time, Clay was chairman of the board of the Continental Can Company. The President's Advisory Committee on a National Highway Program, commonly called the "Clay Committee," included Steve Bechtel of Bechtel Corporation, Sloan Colt of Bankers' Trust Company, Bill Roberts of Allis-Chalmers Manufacturing Company, and Dave Beck of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters.



Gen. Lucius D.  
Clay

Francis C. (Frank) Turner of the Bureau of Public Roads (BPR) was appointed to serve as the advisory committee's executive secretary. Turner was an excellent choice because, unlike the members of the Clay Committee, he had direct knowledge of highway finance and construction, gained through a career that began when he joined BPR in 1929. He also had a direct link to the data resources of BPR.

Gen. Clay and his committee members quickly found themselves confronted with the usual range of alternatives - from inside and outside the administration - that had bedeviled debates on the National System of Interstate Highways from the start. By the end of the year, however, the Clay Committee and the governors found themselves in general agreement on the outline of the needed program. The governors had concluded that, as a practical matter, they could not get the federal government out of the gas tax business. Instead, they submitted proposals that, among other things, would keep state matching requirements at about current levels.

Based on BPR data, the Clay Committee's report estimated that highway needs totaled \$101 billion. The governors' report had indicated that the federal share of total needs should be about 30 percent, including the federal share of the cost of the interstate system. BPR estimated that the cost of modernizing the designated 60,670 km in 10 years would be \$23 billion. The committee made a rough estimate of \$4 billion for the urban roads that had not yet been designated. This figure, \$27 billion, was accepted by all parties as the goal of any plan for financing the interstate highways. Because the interstate system "is preponderantly national in scope and function," the report recommended that the federal government pay most of the cost of its construction. The state and local share would be about \$2 billion.

To finance the system, the Clay Committee proposed creation of a Federal Highway Corporation that would issue bonds worth \$25 billion. Revenue from gas taxes would be dedicated to retiring the bonds over 30 years. Because traffic would continue to increase during that period, revenue would also go up, and a hike in the gas tax would not be necessary.

Eisenhower forwarded the Clay Committee's report to Congress on Feb. 22, 1955. In his transmittal letter, he acknowledged the "varieties of proposals which must be resolved into a national highway pattern," and he wrote that the Clay Committee's proposal would "provide a solid foundation for a sound program." Furthermore, he said: "Our unity as a nation is sustained by free communication of thought and by easy transportation of people and goods. The ceaseless flow of information throughout the republic is matched by individual and commercial movement over a vast system of interconnected highways crisscrossing the

country and joining at our national borders with friendly neighbors to the north and south. Together, the united forces of our communication and transportation systems are dynamic elements in the very name we bear - United States. Without them, we would be a mere alliance of many separate parts."

Even before the President transmitted the report to Congress, Sen. Albert Gore Sr. of Tennessee, (father of the former Vice President) chairman of the Subcommittee on Roads in the Committee on Public Works, introduced his own bill. As modified before going to the Senate for consideration, the Gore bill proposed to continue the federal-aid highway program, but with \$10 billion for the interstate system through fiscal year (FY) 1961. The limitation would be increased to 68,400 km, and the federal share for interstate projects would be 75 percent.



Sen. Albert Gore,  
Sr.

One of the biggest obstacles to the Clay Committee's plan was Sen. Harry Flood Byrd of Virginia, chairman of the Committee on Finance that would have to consider the financing mechanisms for the program. Byrd never wavered in his opposition to bond financing for the grand plan. He was a pay-as-you-go man, who was described by biographer Alden Hatch as having "an almost pathological abhorrence for borrowing that went beyond reason to the realm of deep emotion."

Byrd objected to restricting gas tax revenue for 30 years to pay off the debt. He objected to paying \$12 billion in interest on the bonds. He objected to the fact that the corporation's debt would be outside the public debt and beyond congressional control. He also objected to other features of the Clay Committee's proposal, including the proposal to provide credit - a windfall - for toll roads and toll-free segments already built.

By contrast, the Gore bill had many positive elements, but it had one glaring deficiency. Because the U.S. Constitution specifies that revenue legislation must originate in the House of Representatives, the Gore bill was silent on how the revenue it authorized would be raised. The House Ways and Means Committee would have to fill in the details.



Rep. George Fallon

On May 25, 1955, the Senate defeated the Clay Committee's plan by a vote of 60 to 31. The Senate then approved the Gore bill by a voice vote that reflected overwhelming support, despite objections to the absence of a financing plan. Rep. George H. Fallon of Baltimore, Md., chairman of the Subcommittee on Roads in the House Committee on Public



Works, knew that even if the House approved the Clay Committee plan, it would stand little chance of surviving a House-Senate conference. He, therefore, drafted a new bill with the help of data supplied by Frank Turner. Through a cooperative arrangement with the Ways and Means Committee, Fallon's bill included highway user tax increases with the revenue informally committed to the program. The interstate system would be funded through FY 1968 with a federal share of 90 percent. Because of the significance of the interstate system to national defense, Fallon changed the official name to the "National System of Interstate and Defense Highways." This new name remained in all future House versions and was adopted in 1956.

By a vote of 221 to 193, the House defeated the Clay Committee's plan on July 27, 1955. That was not a surprise. What was a surprise was that Fallon's bill, as modified in committee, was defeated also. It lost by an even more lopsided vote of 292 to 123. Most observers blamed the defeat of the Fallon bill on an intense lobbying campaign by trucking, petroleum, and tire interests. Speaker of the House Sam Rayburn told reporters, "The people who were going to have to pay for these roads put on a propaganda campaign that killed the bill."

Congress adjourned a few days later, ending consideration of the highway program for the year. - *from the FHWA web site*

## More training: consultant workshop held in BR

**A**nother *Acquisition of Right of Way and Relocation Assistance Workshop* was held in Baton Rouge in the Traffic Services classroom on April 2 and 3. The following are some scenes from the workshop.



Pete Nyberg discusses Relocation Assistance



Besides consultants, Real Estate employees Erin Vignes, Carolyn Carawy, and Debbie Boutwell attended. Also attending, though not pictured here were Jerry Braswell, Robert Richard, and Richard McElveen

## Ancient traditions behind Mothers Day

The earliest Mother's Day celebrations are traced back to the spring celebrations of ancient Greece in honor of Rhea, the Mother of the Gods.

During the 1600's, England celebrated a day called "Mothering Sunday," celebrated on the 4th Sunday of Lent, honoring the mothers of England. During this time many of the England's poor worked as servants for the wealthy. As most jobs were located far from their homes, the servants would live at the houses of their employers. On Mothering Sunday the servants would have the day off and were encouraged to return home and spend the day with their mothers. A special mothering cake was often brought along to provide a festive touch.

As Christianity spread throughout Europe the celebration changed to honor the "Mother Church" - the spiritual power that gave them life and protected them from harm. Over time the church festival blended with the Mothering Sunday celebration. People honored both their mothers and the church. In the United States, Mother's Day was first suggested in 1872 by Julia Ward Howe as a day dedicated to peace. In 1907 Ana Jarvis, from Philadelphia, began a campaign to establish a national Mother's Day. Jarvis persuaded her mother's church in Grafton, West Virginia to celebrate Mother's Day on the second anniversary of her mother's death, the 2nd Sunday of May. By the next year Mother's Day was also celebrated in Philadelphia.

Jarvis and her supporters began to write to ministers, businessman and politicians in their quest to establish a national Mother's Day. It was successful; by 1911 Mother's Day was celebrated in almost every state. President Woodrow Wilson, in 1914, made the official announcement proclaiming Mother's Day a national holiday that was to be held each year on the second Sunday of May.

While many countries of the world celebrate their own

## HAPPY MOTHERS DAY

Mother's Days at different times throughout the year, there are some countries, such as Denmark, Finland, Italy, Turkey, Australia and Belgium, which also celebrate Mother's Day that same day. - *from jamiebro.com* ♦

### For those who take life too seriously:

- ☺ A day without sunshine is like . . . night!
- ☺ I wonder how much deeper the ocean would be without sponges?
- ☺ Experience is something you don't get until just after you need it!

- ☺ Bills travel through the mail at twice the speed of checks.
  - ☺ Plan to be spontaneous – tomorrow!
  - ☺ A clear conscience is usually the sign of a bad memory.
- AND OUR FAVORITE:
- ☺ Honk if you love peace and quiet!

## IRWA Corner

### Chapter 75

By: Rebecca Toney

Chapter 75 of the IR/WA met on March 15, 2001. The President of the Shreveport Chamber of Commerce, Dick Bremer, discussed the addition to the GM plant in Shreveport and the new support businesses and parts suppliers that will be moving into the area. He described the formation of the Governor's Task Force for funding the extension of I-49 to the Arkansas border.

At the next meeting on April 19, representatives from Time-Warner will present a program on the Road Runner High Speed Internet Service with cable modems.

### Chapter 43

By: David Pourciau, SR/WA

The March meeting of Chapter 43 was held in Hammond at Tope'La Restaurant on North Cate Street on March 23rd.

The speaker was Hammond Mayor Louis Tallo. He talked about the road infrastructure of Hammond and proposed bypass project as well as city road improvements. There is a push for development around and at the airport. Extension of runways, a major distribution center and federal agencies are planned for the airport area with a north loop from I-55 to I-10. He has asked the Department to rekindle the interchange proposed for the intersection of I-12 and US 51. He is a new administration and his goal is to stimulate activity in and around Hammond.

The Chapter's next meeting will be in Lafayette at the Petroleum Club on April 27. The speaker is to be announced.

The Chapter's May meeting is on May 11 at the Camelot Club in Baton Rouge with Secretary Kam Movassaghi as the speaker. We do not have meetings during the summer. On September 21 we will have a joint meeting with Chapter 75, Shreveport Chapter lead by our own Rebecca Toney, in Pineville at the CLECO office. Everyone is welcomed to attend. Questions? Ask David Pourciau

## Memorial Day roots traced

**M**emorial Day, originally called Decoration Day, is a day to remember those who have died in our nation's service. After the Civil war many people in the North and South decorated graves of fallen soldiers with flowers.

In the Spring of 1866, Henry C. Welles, a druggist in the village of Waterloo, NY, suggested that the patriots who had died in the Civil War should be honored by decorating their graves. General John B. Murray, Seneca County Clerk, embraced the idea and a committee was formed to plan a day devoted to honoring the dead. Townspeople made wreaths, crosses and bouquets for each veteran's grave. The village was decorated with flags at half mast. On May 5 of that year, a procession was held to the town's cemeteries, led by veterans. The town observed this day of remembrance on May 5 of the following year as well.



Decoration Day was officially proclaimed on May 5, 1868 by General John Logan in his General Order No. 11, and was first observed officially on May 30, 1868. The South refused to acknowledge Decoration Day, honoring their dead on separate days until after World War I. In 1882, the name was changed to Memorial Day, and soldiers who had died in other wars were also honored.

In 1971, Memorial Day was declared a national holiday to be held on the last Monday in May.

Today, Memorial Day marks the unofficial beginning of the summer season in the United States. It is still a time to remember those who have passed on, whether in war or otherwise. It also is a time for families to get together for picnics, ball games, and other early summer activities. – from [wilstar.co/holiday/memday.htm](http://wilstar.co/holiday/memday.htm) ♦

## Life goes on . . .

*The following story appeared in the Baton Rouge Advocate on February 12, 2001. Kelly is a former employee of the Real Estate Section*

**H**ow does a young mother with three young children undergo chemotherapy and run carpool at the same time?

Kelly Jackson Mixon, a 28-year-old Denham Springs woman undergoing treatment for recurring breast cancer, found that she was frequently the youngest person at support group meetings for cancer patients. Because she was at a different stage in life than the others, she decided to organize a spin-off group for parents fighting cancer and raising children simultaneously. The "Life Goes On Support Group" now meets monthly at Cancer Services of Greater Baton Rouge.

Once again fighting for her life as she plans to undergo chemotherapy for the cancer that has recurred in her liver, Mixon refuses to feel sorry for herself. Instead, she continues to focus outward with messages she wants to share with others. In addition to her work with the support group, she speaks to groups of young women about breast cancer

and is in the process of writing two books -- a book for children whose parents have cancer and an autobiography. "Kelly is a remarkable young woman with a lot of insight," said Sandy Bezet of Cancer Services. "She is a wonderful role model and an inspiration and a teacher to us all."

A thin, pretty, soft-spoken woman with luminous eyes, Mixon was diagnosed with breast cancer in August of 1997. She was 24 years old. She had two daughters; Kirsten was 3, and Haley was 10 months old at the time. "I was shocked. I had no family history of breast cancer. I had found a lump and went to the doctor. He thought it was just a cyst, but the mammogram showed otherwise, and the biopsy confirmed it was breast cancer, stage 2." A mastectomy was followed by aggressive treatments of chemotherapy and radiation. Mixon had reconstructive surgery planned when she found out she was pregnant. Concerned about the effects her treatments might have on her unborn baby, she consulted with her oncologist, Dr. Gerald Miletello, who told her the baby would probably be fine but the pregnancy could increase her risk of recurrent cancer.

"The pregnancy was not planned, but I just couldn't have an abortion. So, in December, Rachel was born -- a beautiful, healthy baby. I call her my miracle. When I saw Dr. Miletello again, he said I looked OK. I asked him for some follow-up scans, and he didn't advise them initially. But, I just didn't feel like things were quite right. I insisted on the scans, and he agreed, and they showed a small tumor on my liver."

A surgeon at Tulane Medical Center removed the tumor and a quarter of Mixon's liver in February of 1999, the day that Rachel turned 2 months old. Another aggressive round of chemotherapy followed. The first follow-up visit in March revealed no cancer, but scans taken at a visit in April showed four new tumors on Mixon's liver. The cancer was determined to be very aggressive, and Mixon was given a poor prognosis.

"That time, I just gave up. I didn't want to go through chemotherapy again. I was ready to send the girls to my parents. But I had a very good friend, Susan Aucoin, who was also fighting breast cancer. She wouldn't let me give up. She told me I had to get help -- for myself and for my three girls. So, I did." Mixon and her parents went to M.D. Anderson Hospital in Houston for a stem cell transplant, followed by chemotherapy. The transplant was difficult; it meant two months of isolation during which Mixon was separated from her daughters.

"Susan had just died, and I missed Christmas and Rachel's first birthday, but my mom stayed with me the whole time, and I had so much help and support from family and friends. I had a laptop computer and sent out e-mails every day."

Mixon's aunt, Roxie LeSage, remembers the e-mails. "If she (Mixon) said, 'Keep smiling,' that meant things were going well. If she didn't say it, then she'd had a bad day."

The treatment worked. Mixon's cancer went into remission again -- until two weeks ago.

April/May 2001  
Page

"It's back. I've come to the realization that this is what 'normal' is for me. My life is about fighting cancer. I've made my peace with God and accepted that. I've always been an open, positive person. So, I'm starting another round of chemotherapy. I just thank God for today, and we'll see what tomorrow brings."

What makes this round of fighting cancer particularly difficult is that Mixon is currently in the middle of divorce and custody proceedings as well and has moved back home with her parents while looking for a place of her own. Open and honest with her girls about what is going on with her, Mixon said she wants to share that insight with others through a children's book she has written, titled "Mama's Head Ticks."

"The book chronicles Mixon's own journey and includes real-life incidents she experienced with her daughters, such as a "hair pulling party" they had the first time she lost her hair. Told through the eyes of oldest daughter Kirsten, the book also talks about how the girls like to pretend they are chemo medicine by running around attacking bad cancer cells. Mixon said she hopes to find an illustrator and a publisher for "Mama's Head Ticks."

She also started keeping a journal when she first got sick and hopes to possibly publish that as an autobiography as well. "At first, I was writing just for me and for my girls, but then I thought it might have value to others as well." Meanwhile, Mixon continues to be an advocate for herself and for others. She attends the Hope Chest breast cancer support group and is a powerful presence at the annual Race for the Cure. This past year, 87 people walked or ran at the race in her name. She also relishes opportunities to speak to groups of women, particularly young women, about breast cancer. "I want to get the message out that, although it's rare, young women are at risk for cancer. They need to do their monthly breast exam and, if they find something suspicious, they need to notify their doctors."



"I remember seeing a television special on breast cancer not long before I was diagnosed. I flipped the station because I didn't think it affected me. I was 24 years old. And I was wrong." ♦

**How's that again?**

## **So you think you are addicted to computers . . .**

JERUSALEM — A young man is now tomer.com, the computer programmer formerly known as Tomer Krrissi. Friends simply call him ".com." The Israeli Interior Ministry initially balked at his application, claiming a name couldn't include punctuation marks, the 25-year-old told man the daily *Maariv* newspaper. But after studying the law, he found there was no such provision and officials backed down. "People who don't use the Internet think what I have done is just a gimmick, but the Internet changed my life. It opened up my head," he said. - from USA Today ♦



## Why the sweepstakes didn't come

CHICAGO — A 51-year-old postman delivered the mail, all right — straight into a trash bin, federal prosecutors say. The man was charged with the misdemeanor offense of mail desertion, which carries a maximum sentence of one year in prison and a possible \$100,000 fine. Prosecutors said he deposited 1,088 pieces of advertising mail into a trash bin outside the post office where he works on Chicago's North Side. They said no first-class mail was dumped.- *from USA Today* ♦

# Talk about a "hot" time!

## McIlhenny Company

TABASCO brand products are produced by McIlhenny Company, founded in 1868 at Avery Island, Louisiana, and still in operation on that very site today.

The Company's roots were actually cultivated a few years earlier, shortly after the McIlhenny family returned to the Island from self-imposed exile during the Civil War. According to family tradition, founder Edmund McIlhenny obtained some hot pepper seeds from a traveler who had recently arrived in Louisiana from Central America. McIlhenny planted them on Avery Island, and then experimented with pepper sauces until he hit upon one he liked.



By 1868 Edmund McIlhenny began making pepper sauce, and during the early 1870's his concoction found its way to New York City, where a major nineteenth-century wholesale grocery firm, E.C. Hazard and Company, helped to introduce the product to the northeastern U.S. and beyond.

Tradition holds that McIlhenny first used discarded cologne bottles topped with sprinkler fitments for distributing his sauce, important since his pepper sauce was concentrated and was best used when sprinkled, not poured on. The ever-inventive McIlhenny washed the used bottles thoroughly, and made up labels himself. Sales grew, and by the late 1870's he even sold his sauce in England.

## Only One TABASCO®

In 1870, Edmund McIlhenny received *letters patent* for his unique formula for processing peppers into a fiery red sauce.

April/May 2001

Page

That same process is still in use today, and Avery Island remains the headquarters for the worldwide company which is still owned and operated by direct descendants of Edmund McIlhenny.

## Where does the name TABASCO® come from?

Edmund McIlhenny came up with the brand name TABASCO® as his second choice. Some scholars say it's a Central American Indian word that means "land where the soil is hot and humid." This certainly describes the climate of Avery Island that has proved perfect for growing his special variety of hot pepper. Other scholars have put forth that it actually means "place of coral or oyster shell"

McIlhenny originally wanted to call his concoction Petite Anse Sauce (after the Island which then was known as Isle Petite Anse). But when family members balked at the commercial use of the family Island's name, he opted for the trademark TABASCO®. - *from www.tabasco.com* ♦

## So you'd like to live in the White House?

The following are some facts concerning the "People's House":

- There are 132 rooms, 32 bathrooms, and 6 levels to accommodate all the people who live in, work in, and visit the White House. There are also 412 doors, 147 windows, 28 fireplaces, 7 staircases, and 3 elevators.
- At various times in history, the White House has been known as the "President's Palace," the "President's House," and the "Executive Mansion." President Theodore Roosevelt



officially gave the White House its current name in 1901.

- The White House receives approximately 6,000 visitors a day.

- Presidential Firsts...

President John Tyler (1841-1845) was the first President to have his photograph taken... President Theodore Roosevelt (1901-1909) was not only the first President to ride in an automobile, but also the first President to travel outside the country while President when he visited Panama... President Franklin Roosevelt (1933-1945) was the first President to ride in an airplane.

- With five full-time chefs, the White House kitchen is able to serve dinner to as many as 140 guests and hors d'oeuvres to more than 1,000.
- The White House requires 570 gallons of paint to cover its outside surface.
- For recreation, the White House has a variety of facilities available to its residents, including a tennis court, a jogging track, swimming pool, movie theater, billiard room, and a bowling lane. - *from www.whitehouse.gov* ♦

“Life is something like this trumpet. If you don’t put something in it you don’t get anything out. And that’s the truth.” – **W.C. Handy**

“Words to live by are just words, unless you  y them. You have to walk the talk.” – **Unknown**  
The LaDOTD Acquirer is published by the Real Estate Section

“There is no mistake so great as the mistake on not going on.” – **William Blake**

“The deeds you do today may be the only sermon some people will hear today.” – **St. Francis of Assisi**

“The problem with doing nothing is not knowing when you’re finished.” – **Benjamin Franklin**

“Usually people are down on anything they are not up on.” – **Unknown**

“Most people are about as happy as they make up their minds to be.” – **Abraham Lincoln**

“The practice of forgiveness is our most important contribution to the healing of the world.” – **Marianne Williamson**

“It's always too soon to quit!” – **Norman Vincent Peale**

“Life appears to me too short to be spent in nursing animosity, or registering wrongs.” – **Charlotte Bronte**

“If you want a guarantee, buy a toaster.” – **Clint Eastwood**

## Real Estate On Line!

(Intranet)

<http://ladotnet.dotd.state.la.us>

(Real Estate under Design Section)

(Internet)

<http://www.dotd.state.la.us>

(Real Estate under Engineering Groups)